

Status of Issues from March 12, 2008 EPA-DEQ-LWG Background Approach Technical Meeting (REVISED April 3, 2008)

Background Approach Issue	Status of Issue at End of Meeting	Resolution Status
Statistical Methods	EPA is open to the LWG using statistical methods other than ProUCL for developing background values.	LWG to propose specific approach in April 30 meeting on background methods.
	EPA will consider statistical endpoints other than central tendency estimates given by ProUCL.	LWG to propose specific approach in April 30 meeting on background methods.
Uses of “Background” Values	<p>The following are the general uses of “background” in the RI/FS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PRG development 2. Risk characterization 3. Development of Remediation Goals and AOPCs (hill topping replacement values) 4. Criteria for assessing long-term monitoring 5. Evaluation of potential capping material 6. Possibly recontamination evaluation (it was discussed that this may not be properly defined as a background issue) 	<p><u>Uses of background</u> Issue-issue resolved.</p> <p>LWG to propose specific approaches for each use in April 30 meeting on background methods.</p>
Use of Upstream Tissue Data	EPA indicated that upstream fish tissue data should not be used in background assessments <u>or risk assessment</u> but could be presented outside <u>in</u> the RI Report for “informational purposes”.	Unresolved. Further technical discussions not useful.

March 27, 2008

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Atmospheric Deposition	The LWG will do a literature-based evaluation of the effects of “background” atmospheric deposition on stormwater and upstream inputs, but no new data will be collected. <u>This qualitative evaluation will focus on local data to the extent possible.</u>	<u>Atmospheric deposition issue resolved.</u> Details of approach to be discussed further at April 2nd meeting on F&T issues.
Use of Anthropogenic Background	The LWG will develop background values for anthropogenic chemicals in addition to naturally-occurring chemicals for use in risk characterization and development of remediation goals.	Details of approach to be discussed further at April 9 th meeting on development approach for PRGs/AOPCs.
Background Data Set	Bedded sediment, sediment trap, and surface water data from between RMs 11 and 15 may be assessed for potential use in “background” determinations. EPA indicated the use of sediment trap and surface water data was dependent on the purpose of the analysis, and that EPA has a strong preference for the use of the upstream bedded sediment data in background determinations.	LWG to propose specific approach in April 30 meeting on background methods.
Hilltopping Replacement Values in AOPC Development	The LWG and EPA still need to agree on use of background in developing replacement values for hilltopping exercise.	LWG to propose specific approach in April <u>2 and 30 meetings</u> on <u>PRG development</u> and background methods.

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Harbor "Baseline" Values	EPA indicated the LWG should consider the concept of within harbor "baseline" and its potential uses.	LWG to propose specific approach in April <u>2 and 30</u> meetings on <u>PRG development</u> background methods.
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March 27, 2008